thing. The Government has not responded to it properly. On the other hand, this is the most neglected sector of the working classes. The Labour Minister is here and I would be very much happy if he kindly responds to this and assures this House that appropriate action will be taken to protect the interests of the most neglected and exploited sector of the working classes.

PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram): Sir, about 50 persons including women who were working in th Cochin Shipyard canteen for more than 15 years were mercilessly terminated from their services. There was a complaint that this termination was based upon a conspiracy of the canteen contractor.

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't bring this kind of things to discuss in Parliament. It will be very difficult. I would request you not to insist on it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, recently I received a letter from the parents of the students studying in Ukraine, a republic of the erstwhiel Soviet Union. Sir, through you, I would like to apprise the House of the contents that because of the political turmoil and changes in the erstwhile Soviet Union, in the last few months, 4,000 Indian students there are living in miserable conditions. They are facing shortage of bread and eatables and are just surviving on bread and water. Though winter season is in fulls wing but they do not have shoes to put on. All this is published in the 'Jansatta' of 1st of this month. Medical students studying in Ukraine, have written to their parents that for shortage of cash they are not able to return to Indian. Their monthly stipend is just 150 Roubles. Their plight is miserable. If the House and the nation do not come to their rescue then they will not be able to return to India. We took prompt decision to repatriate Indians from Gulf in the face of disturbed conditions over there. So similar efforts need need to be made to bring back these students. Concern for safety and security of Urna Pathak and a few other girl students has also been mentioned in the letter. These students cannot even talk to their family members back home because prices have escalated somuch that a pair of shoes costs 2,500 Roubles and a telephone call 500 Roubles. I would like to urge you to make arrangements for their return. They may be given admissions here and if they need cash, then arrangements should be made by the Government to send money to them, to save these students from hunger and misery.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Indian student who were pursuing their studies in the erstwhile. Soviet Union and are still staying there are really experiencing difficulties. I met two people at Banglore, One's son and other's daughter are studying in that foreign land. Their difficulty is practical which has arisen due to disintegration of the Soviet Union. The Government of India should pay attention to remove their difficulties. Firstly, the scholarships they are getting in roubles is very meagre. Secondly, they are finding it difficult to come back to India. They cannot travel by Soviet planes. The Air India should make arrangements to bring them to India and fly them back to Soviet Union, who want to continue their studies there. Some of them have completed two years and some have completed three years of their course. They would not like to come back without completing their studies. They would like just to come to India once a year and Air–India can arrange tickets for them. The Government of India should cautiously gather complete information in this regard and place the same in the House. It is a very important matter.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, the matter is quite serious. It has been appearing in the Press and also the information has come to the Government. I shall bring it to the notice of the Ministry of External Affairs and we will come back to the House. I may assure the House that the Government will take whatever efforts are required to alleviate the sufferings.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM (Katihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, last evening a very unfortunate incident took place in the Jama Masjid area in Delhi. At about 3 o' clock, a rickshaw puller named Nizammudin was beaten up by the police brutally. He was half-dead and lay there for a long time. No arrangement was made either to provide him treatment or send him to hospital. The result was that people gathered around him and started raising slogans. The police tried to disperse them. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know whenever such an incident takes place anti-social elements assemble. Some people gathered there and unfortunately some of them entered the police station and set certain furniture ablaze. The result was that the police lathicharged them. It is said that they resorted to firing also. The SHO of the area whose name perhaps is..* He provoked the crowed. While this was going on, unfortunately the Additional Commissioner of Police, whose name is perhaps...* (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The names should not go on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAMMAD YUNUS SALEEM: Unfortuantely, he tried to enter the Jama Masjid with the help of two constables in a full drunken state. The Imam and his sons were present there. They realised the gravity of the situation and thought that if people come to know that he was entering the mosque under the influence of liquor, th situation world become serious. Therefore, they requested him to go back and send his assistant with whom they would talk and take steps required to restore law and order. He said that let them shake hands with him but the Imam refused to do so and asked him to get back. Then he went away and sent his constables. The constables started beating up people with lathis indiscriminately, threw tear-gas shells (*Interruptions*) and also fired.

Sir, those who know the guide map of old Delhi know that the incident took place near Jama Masjid but these people also reached near 'Chudi Walan' area. There is a mosque in a private house in the area. A Muezzin lives there. They entered the mosque and beat up the person mercilessly. That resolted in resentment against the police in the area. I know only that much which I read in newspapers but one of my friends, Mr. Afzal, who is a Member of the other House said that he was there till 2 o' clock in the night. He narrated the incident in detail. Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister of Home Affairs should contact the Lieutenant Governor and ascertain the factual situation. The situation should be controlled at any cost so that it may not deteriorate further. If its is true that the Additional Deputy Commissioner tried to enter the mosque under the influence of liquor and also ordered lathi charge then..... (*Interruptions*)..... strict action should be taken against him. If the peaceful atmosphere is disturbed, it would not be in the interest of the city. There is peace in the city for last 2-3 years. Therefore, through you, I

*Not recorded.